

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

11. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a TRAF [of claim 1] selected from the group consisting of:

(1) a nucleotide sequence encoding a murine TRAF1 comprising the amino acid sequence depicted in SEQ. ID. NO: 2;

(2) a nucleotide sequence encoding a murine TRAF2 comprising the amino acid sequence depicted in SEQ. ID. NO: 4;

(3) a nucleotide sequence encoding a native mammalian analog of said murine TRAF1 or TRAF2; and

(4) a nucleic acid capable of hybridizing, under stringent conditions, with the complement of nucleic acid encoding the TRAF region of native murine TRAF1 or TRAF2, and encoding a protein having TRAF biological activity.

In claim 17, line 1, please add --according to claim 11-- after "TRAF".

Please add the following new claims:

--51. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding murine TRAF1 (SEQ. ID. NO: 2) or its native human analog.--

--52. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding murine TRAF2 (SEQ. ID. NO: 4) or its native human analog.--

Remarks

The amendments in the specification are of formal nature. Support for the foregoing amendments in the claims is at least in the paragraphs bridging pages 22 and 23 and pages 23 and 24, and at page 24, lines 23-26.

The restriction requirement

Applicants were requested to restrict the present application to one of twelve inventions specified at pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action. The invention of Group II, claims 11 to 13 and 17 is hereby elected. Applicants specifically retain the right to pursue the non-elected inventions in one or more continuing applications.